

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE
JOSEPH M. GAYDOS, SR.

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 20, 2015

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joseph Matthew Gaydos, Sr., a member of this body for twelve terms and a tireless advocate for working Americans. He passed away on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015. He was 88 years old.

Born July 3, 1926, Mr. Gaydos was the youngest of seven children. His parents, Helen (Elena) Megella and Joann (John) Gajdos, (later changed to Gaydos) emigrated from Hungary and first settled in Greene County, Pennsylvania. Mr. Gaydos was born in Brad-dock, but grew up in Glassport where he attended Glassport High School before joining the Navy during World War II.

After returning from the war, he attended Duquesne University and then the University of Notre Dame Law School. Following his graduation in 1951, he served as general counsel to the United Mineworkers Union District 5. He also served as Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania and Assistant Solicitor of Allegheny County before entering politics.

Mr. Gaydos served briefly as a state senator for the 45th District from 1967 to 1968 before being elected to fill the seat left vacant by the death of U.S. Representative Elmer Holland. He was sworn in as a Member of Congress on November 5, 1968; he was the first Slovak-American to serve in Congress. He subsequently served nearly 25 years as the Representative for Pennsylvania's former 20th District.

In Congress, Mr. Gaydos was a strong supporter of the steel industry and a dedicated advocate for his constituents. He founded the Congressional Steel Caucus in the early 1970's, and he was one of the first to alert the public to the consequences of subsidized foreign steel being dumped on the American market. Through the Congressional Steel Caucus, Mr. Gaydos encouraged members "to strengthen trade law enforcement from unfairly subsidized and dumped steel imports," United Steel Workers spokesman Gary Hubbard said to the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. "He sponsored bills for job safety in industrial workplaces and the coal mines."

In addition, Congressman Gaydos played an important part in drafting the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, which protects workers' pensions.

Shortly after retiring, Mr. Gaydos joined his son's law firm in 1992 and the name changed to "Gaydos, Gaydos & Associates". Mr. Gaydos remained with the firm handling Governmental Relations until 1994 when he retired for the second and final time.

In a recent interview, Joseph Gaydos, Jr. described his father as a humble, hardworking man who had a pragmatic attitude and took the concerns of his constituents very seriously.

"He was never somebody who needed to drive a big car and have the fanciest of things," Joseph Gaydos, Jr. said. "He was a regular fellow who told us to always remember where we came from."

Mr. Gaydos was a proponent of actions over words, his son said. "Don't tell me what you're going to do," Joseph Gaydos, Jr. recalled him saying often. "Show me what you've done."

Mr. Gaydos strived to live up to his own advice and often quoted "A Politician's Prayer," a poem his wife wrote early in his career:

So as a public servant / I pray to God above
For guidance and humility / and a little bit
of love.

And after my life's ended / and I lay down to
rest

I'll know I can truly say / I've done my very
best.

Mr. Gaydos' friends, family and constituents can all attest to the fact that he did indeed do his very best. Joe Gaydos was a dedicated, hardworking public servant who spent his life championing the interests of working men and women. We could use more men and women like him in public life today.

Joe Gaydos was a good man. I was proud to know him, and I want to extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends on their loss.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 20, 2015

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Friday, February 13, 2015 because of a serious illness in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call #81—NAY

Roll Call #82—AYE

Roll Call #83—AYE

RECOGNIZING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 20, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lunar New Year and to applaud the significant contributions made by Chinese Americans to American life and culture.

Yesterday, Thursday, February 19, marked the first day of the "Year of the Goat."

The Lunar New Year, or "Nian," is a tradition that has been celebrated for more than a thousand years by the Chinese and other persons of Asian ancestry.

The Lunar New Year is cause for celebration in communities all across our country but might I say that no city does it better than my home city of Houston, which will be hosting

the Annual Lunar New Year Houston Celebration this coming weekend.

Celebrants will be treated to a variety of festivities, including parades, festivals, art exhibits, and musical performances.

Mr. Speaker, Americans of Asian Pacific ancestry have positively influenced our country through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service.

They have enhanced and shaped our national character with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their communities.

Asian Americans have enriched our culture and economy and made significant contributions in every area of American life from the arts and humanities, to the natural and social sciences, to business and the economy, in government, sports, the military, and technology and innovation.

Notable Chinese Americans who have distinguished themselves in the field of the arts and humanities include the two-time Academy Award winning cinematographer, James Wong Howe; Ang Lee, the Academy Award winning director; Maya Lin, the architect who designed the iconic Vietnam Veterans Memorial; I. M. Pei, the famous architect and designer of the Louvre Pyramid; Amy Tan, the best-selling author of *The Joy Luck Club*; Yo-Yo Ma, the world-renowned cellist; and the legendary Bruce Lee, who revolutionized the martial arts film genre.

In the field of business, American life has been enriched by the contributions of Steve Chen, the co-founder of YouTube; Jen-Hsun Huang, the co-founder and CEO of NVIDIA, the computer graphics card company; Min H. Kao, co-founder of Garmin, the GPS software giant; William Wang, the founder and CEO of Vizio; and Jerry Yang, co-founder of Yahoo!

Mr. Speaker, Connie Chung made history as the first Chinese American woman to co-anchor a major network's national news broadcast, as did Norman Bay, the first Chinese American United States Attorney; and Thomas Tang, the first Chinese American federal judge.

Many contemporary Chinese Americans have risen to occupy some of the most important positions in the nation, including my colleagues, Judy Chu and Grace Meng, the first and second Chinese American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives; Dr. Steven Chum, Nobel laureate in Physics and United States Secretary of Energy from 2009–2013; Hiram L. Fong, the first U.S. Senator of Chinese ancestry; Ed Lee, the Mayor of San Francisco; and Gary Locke, former Secretary of Commerce, Ambassador to China, and only Chinese American ever to serve as a Governor.

Mr. Speaker, Kurt Lee was the first Asian American Marine Corps officer and he was followed by John Liu Fugh, the first Chinese American officer to be promoted to the rank of Major General in the United States Army and Coral Wong Pietsch, the first female Chinese American Army General; and it is a source of great pride that the Congressional Medal of

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